

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0036] Digital television having improved channel surfing ability. At least the "I" and "P" frames of an MPEG transport stream are buffered for as many program streams as memory permits. A pointer tracks where the last "I" frame of each program stream is in memory. Since the last "I" frame and subsequent "P" frames of a program stream are available, channel changes within the current MPEG transport stream are speed up by allowing any "P" frame to start a newly selected program stream. Extra memory enables buffering of all of the "I", "P" and "B" frames of a program stream. Extra tuners can enable selection of multiple MPEG transport streams. Intelligent choices of MPEG transport streams can speed surfing across transport streams.